



ST. NEOTS
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Surveyor & Chief Public Health
Inspector

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

1970

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ST. NEOTS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

To the Chairman and Members of the St. Neots Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the District for the year 1970.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population. The estimated mid-year population rose by 280 during the year bringing the total for 1970 to 9,790. Although this increase is considerably less than that which occurred last year, it does, nevertheless, indicate fairly closely the average figure by which the population of the Rural District has been increasing over the last five years.

Birth Rate. During the year 207 births were credited to the District as compared with 186 last year. The local adjusted live birth rate for the District rose from 20.6 per 1,000 population in 1969 to 22.2 per 1,000 population in 1970 — a rate which is 5.8 per 1,000 above the national average.

Stillbirths. A pleasing feature to note this year is the fact that there were only 2 stillbirths recorded in the District in 1970 compared with 6 which occurred the previous year. A less pleasing feature, however, is the fact that there were 13 illegitimate births in the District this year in contrast to 4 which took place in 1969.

Death Rate. There were 81 deaths recorded in the District during the year — 6 less than in 1969 — giving a local adjusted death rate of 9.4 per 1,000 population. This is a fractionally lower rate than last year and now stands at 2.3 per 1,000 less than the national average.

26% of deaths were due to malignant disease and 43% were caused by disorders of the cardio-vascular system.

Infant Mortality. Only one infant died this year in the District before reaching the age of twelve months — giving an infant mortality rate of 5 per 1,000 live births.

This is in sharp contrast to the situation which occurred last year when 5 infants died from various causes resulting in an infant mortality rate of 27.

Infectious Diseases. The incidence of notifiable infectious disease was extremely low during the year, only 10 notifications having been received.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Water Supply. All the water consumed in the area, apart from the Kimbolton neighbourhood, is derived from the Brampton source, which consists of water from gravel beds and from the river. The supply has been satisfactory from a qualitation and quantitation point of view — the average daily consumption being nearly 50 gallons per head of population.

Works to improve the Supply at Toseland and Yelling are well advanced and extensions to the Brampton works were due to take place about the middle of 1971 and will take a year to complete.

It would be, in my opinion, a great advantage to have a main link with the reservoir at Grafham under the control of the Great Ouse Water Authority. This link could serve not only to augment supplies at times of peak demand but would also provide a very vital connection with a large source if serious river pollution ever occurred.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.....The Council's plans for providing main drainage in the remaining unsewered parishes of the District continued to make progress during the year. The scheme for Great Paxton, Toseland and Yelling came into operation during the year and all the properties served by the new foul sewers were connected. In conjunction with this, many properties, both private and Council, were improved by the addition of bathrooms, W.C.s, etc., thus raising the basic standard of living.

During the year work commenced on the sewerage of Grafham village and at the end of the year almost half the scheme had been completed, which includes enlargement of the Buckden works.

Abbotsley, Great Gransden and Waresley are the next villages on the list to be seweraged and it is expected that plans will be proposed this year so that this scheme can proceed as soon as possible.

Negotiations are in progress with the Home Office regarding the main drainage of the Borstal Institution at Gaynes Hall. If agreement is reached it is expected that extensions of the Kimbolton/Great Staughton sewage works will be made to cater for the requirements of the Borstal and for the neighbouring parishes of Tilbrook and Covington.

Housing. Improvement continues to be made to existing property to raise the housing standards within the District and it should be noted that almost 100% of dwellings have an inside mains water supply and that 93% have an inside W.C., while 89% have a bath situated inside the house.

No new Council houses, however, were completed during the year, the Council by that time owning 571 houses and 20 prefabricated bungalows.

Hospital Facilities. Negotiations are still going on between the various Local Authorities concerned and the Regional Hospital Board as to the future programme for the provision of a new hospital in Huntingdon. It is hoped that more definite confirmation will be forthcoming at a fairly early date.

Finally I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for all their interest and support and it also gives me very real pleasure to record my thanks to Mr. Fawcett and the staff of the public health department for their hard work and steady support throughout the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CALDWELL.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health.

J. CALDWELL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.A., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor :

M. FAWCETT, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

(Telephone St. Neots 2402/3 and Buckden 282).

Deputy Surveyor and Public Health Inspector :

W. MURRAY, M.A.P.H.I.

(Telephone Buckden 746)

Divisional Public Health Inspector and Assistant Surveyor :

G. D. OLIPHANT, M.A.P.H.I., A.M.R.S.H.

(Telephone St. Neots 3226)

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area : 51,739 acres (approximately 80 square miles).

Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1970 : 3,466.

Rateable Value of the District : £314,516.

Value of a Penny Rate : £1,220.

Registrar-General's Estimated Population (Mid 1969) : 9,510.

Registrar-General's Estimated Population (Mid 1970) : 9,790.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

Rousing, Health and Planning Committee :

Chairman : Councillor J. G. Wills.

Members : Councillor E. G. Ascroft.

Councillor J. H. Christmas.

Councillor W. E. Davenport.

Councillor E. R. M. Davis.

Councillor Mrs. A. M. Dickens.

Councillor Mrs. B. Edmunds.

Councillor Mrs. A. M. Gibbins.

Councillor G. J. Henson.

Councillor Mrs. B. Judd.

Councillor E. J. Mann.

Councillor Mrs. A. D. Marr.

Councillor S. Mear.

Councillor W. G. Page.

Councillor Mrs. D. M. Peck.

Councillor G. T. Rampling, O.B.E.

Councillor Mrs. M. E. Robinson.

Councillor H. Storey.

Councillor Mrs. J. L. Topham.

Councillor M. Ward.

Councillor W. J. Watson.

Councillor Rev. G. Whitlock.

Councillor G. H. Wood.

Finance and General Purposes Committee :

Chairman : Councillor J. H. Christmas.

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor Mrs. A. M. Dickens

Clerk of the Council :

M. Fawcett.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1970

Estimated mid year home population ... 9,790.

Live Births		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	....	101	93	194
Illegitimate	....	7	6	13
	Totals	108	99	207

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	....	....	21.1
Birth rate corrected by comparability factor (1.05)	....	....	22.2
Birth rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	....	....	16.0

Still Births

Legitimate	....	1	1	2
Illegitimate	....	—	—	—
	Totals	1	1	2

Still birth rate per 1,00 total live and still births	....	....	10
Still birth rate per 1,00 total live and still births (England and Wales)	....	....	13

Deaths

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	....	....	8.3
Death rate corrected by comparability factor (1.13)	....	....	9.4
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population (England and Wales)	....	....	11.7

Infant Mortality — Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

Legitimate	....	1	—	1
Illegitimate	....	—	—	—
	Totals	1	—	1

Infant Mortality rate (deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births)	....	....	5
Infant Mortality rate (England and Wales)	....	....	18

TABLE CLASSIFYING DEATH UNDER AGE GROUPS

Age		Male	Female	Total
Under 4 weeks	....	1	—	1
4 weeks and under 1 year	....	—	—	—
1 and under 4 years	....	—	—	—
5 and under 14 years	....	—	—	—
15 and under 24 years	....	1	—	1
25 and under 34 years	....	1	—	1
35 and under 44 years	....	1	—	1
45 and under 54 years	....	4	5	9
55 and under 64 years	....	6	5	11
65 and under 74 years	....	12	8	20
75 and over	....	13	24	37
	Totals	39	42	81

The following table indicates the trend in population, birth and death rates for the district over the past 5 years :—

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
POPULATION.	8500	9100	9,030	9510	9,790
BIRTHS.					
Total live births	159	169	184	186	207
Crude Birth Rate	18.7	18.6	20.4	19.6	21.1
Area Comparability Factor	1.07	1.05	1.05	1.05	1.05
Corrected Birth Rate	20.0	19.5	21.4	20.6	22.2
Birth Rate (England & Wales)	17.7	17.2	16.9	16.3	16.0
DEATHS.					
Total Deaths	84	77	74	87	81
Crude Death Rate	9.9	8.5	8.2	9.1	8.3
Area Comparability Factor	1.05	1.11	1.09	1.11	1.13
Corrected Death Rate	10.4	9.4	8.9	10.1	9.4
Death Rate (England & Wales)	11.7	11.2	11.9	11.9	11.7

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING 1970

	Total cases Notified.
Scarlet Fever —
Whooping Cough —
Diphtheria —
Measles	.. .. .. 3
Typhoid Fever —
Paratyphoid Fever —
Acute Poliomyelitis —
Infective Jaundice	.. .. .. 1
Food Poisoning	.. .. .. 1
Dysentery	.. .. .. 4
Tuberculosis	.. .. .. 1
	—
Total	.. .. 10

TUBERCULOSIS

Total Number on Register at 31st December, 1970 — 29

Pulmonary 23 Non-Pulmonary 6

Age Periods	New Cases Diagnosed		New Cases—Transfers		
	Respiratory.	Non-Res.	Respiratory.	Non-Res.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0					
1					
5					
10					
15 —	1				
20					
25 — —			— —		
35					
45					
55					
65 & upwards					
Total .. — 1			— —		

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Registrar General's List)

List No.	Causes	Male	Female
B5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	—
B18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	2	1
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm — Stomach	—	1
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm — Intestine	3	—
B19(6)	Malignant Neoplasm — Lung, Bronchus	5	1
B19(7)	Malignant Neoplasm — Breast	—	2
B19(9)	Malignant Neoplasm — Prostate	1	—
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	3
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	—	1
B46(5)	Other diseases of Nervous System	1	—
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	—	1
B27	Hypertensive Disease	—	2
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	6	5
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	—	2
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	4	13
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	1
B31	Influenza	2	—
B32	Pneumonia	3	4
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	2	—
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1
B46(9)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	—	1
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	—	1
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	—
B45	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	1	—
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents	4	—
BE48	All other accidents	—	1
Total all causes		39	42

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The following Laboratory facilities have been available to this authority and to General Practitioners in the area :

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge
Tel Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst, (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tenison Road,
Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 2097.

(b) Ambulance Service

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctors' orders (Tel. Huntingdon 3348).

(c) Home Nursing

Nurse-Midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity cases in the District.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

(1) The following Health Services were provided by the Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council :—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Infant Welfare	Children (0—5 years)	Thursday, 2—4 p.m. and 2nd Monday in month 2—4 p.m.	Child Health Centre, Almond Rd., St. Neots.
		1st and 3rd Wednesday in month, 2—4 p.m.	The Surgery, High Street, Kimbolton.
		Wednesday 2—3 p.m.	The Surgery, Silver Street, Buckden.
Dental	Pre-School and School-children.	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Almond Rd., St. Neots.
	Pre-natal and nursing mothers.	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Nursery Rd., Huntingdon.

(ii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board :

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages.	Every Thursday, 9.30—12.30 p.m. 2.0—3.0 p.m.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Disease	All cases	Tuesday from 2—6 p.m. Thursday from 2—6 p.m.	Addenbrookes Hospital Cambridge.
	Males	Monday from 5 p.m. Wednesday from 5.30 p.m.	Clinic 5, Out-patients Department,
	Females	Tuesday from 10.30 a.m. Thursday from 4.30 p.m.	Peterborough Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service :

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-School and School- children.	By appointment	Child Health Centre, Nursery Rd., Huntingdon.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Obstetrical Gynaecological, Paediatric and Dental out-patient clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) Hospital Services

Fever—Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely.

General Hospital Services are provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases are admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity Unit, Huntingdon and Mill Road Maternity Hospital, Cambridge.

(f) Family Planning Clinics

Huntingdon. Held at Child Health Centre, Nursery Road, Huntingdon Every Wednesday 7 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.
(To make an appointment call at Clinic or telephone Huntingdon 3398 after 7 p.m. Wednesday evenings ONLY).

St. Ives. Held at the Child Health Centre, Ramsey Road, St. Ives. Every Monday 9.30—11 a.m.
(To make an appointment call at Clinic or telephone St. Ives 2622 during sessions ONLY).

St. Neots. Held at Child Health Centre, Almond Road, St. Neots. Tuesday evenings 7—9 p.m.
1st and 3rd Thursday mornings 9.30—11.30 a.m.
(To make an appointment telephone St. Neots 2261 during session times ONLY).

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
—YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1970

WATER SUPPLY.

The following information has been supplied by the Engineer to the Nene and Ouse Water Board.

All water consumed in the area, apart from the Kimbolton District, is now derived from the Brampton source. This consists of mixed gravel and river water, coagulated, filtered, softened and chlorinated.

The quality of the supply has been satisfactory but the improved chlorinating and de-chlorinating apparatus referred to in last year's Report has not yet been installed. It is part of the extensions and alterations to the Brampton Treatment Works which will commence in a few weeks' time. Constant vigilance with the existing apparatus enables a satisfactory water to be produced.

The Board has recently approved the use of ferric sulphate in place of ferrous sulphate as the coagulating chemical at Brampton following experimental use. Ferric sulphate appears to be more efficient in dealing with river water when the quality is poor.

Quantities have been maintained and for the first time the peak daily consumption of 5.5 m.g.d (25 Ml/d) over the whole area of supply was reached.

The river intake had to be shut down for a period in September when the river water was polluted with phenol. The origin was industrial waste which entered the River Ivel through the public sewerage system at Luton. Alternative raw water supplies were obtained from the Alconbury Brook.

No further action was taken during the year with regard to fluoridation.

Bacteriological samples of water going into supply were satisfactory. Samples are taken weekly from the Brampton Treatment Works. Chemical samples satisfactory.

No action was taken during the year regarding plumbo-solvency.

The average daily consumption in the area was 47 g.p.h. and it is made up of 35.4 domestic and 11.6 metered supplies.

The twelve inch main laid to Toseland Reservoir has been completed. The contractors have finished work on the roof of the reservoir and are now working on the small booster station to serve Toseland and Yelling. The reservoir and booster should be in use very soon. Work on the extensions to the Brampton Works are due to commence in May and be completed in May, 1972. Arrangements are being made to take a bulk supply of treated water from the Great Ouse Water Authority for the Summer of 1971, should it be required. Thereafter the extended Brampton Treatment Works will meet demand for another ten to fifteen years.

I would like to thank Mr. H. B. Wilson, the Engineer, for the above information.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF TREATED WATER

The Council's Officers obtained bacteriological water samples as follows, 38 satisfactory samples, 1 unsatisfactory sample. The unsatisfactory sample was notified to the Water Board for their immediate attention.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

No samples taken.

ANNUAL RAINFALL—at St. Neots 22.94 inches. Rain fell on 174 days. May produced 0.30 inches with measurable rain falling on only four days. The total rainfall is average. I wish to thank W. P. Bond-Smith, Esq., for this information.

PRIVATE WELLS.

Three satisfactory and one unsatisfactory samples of private well supplies were submitted for bacteriological examination. The unsatisfactory sample was due to the temporary non-use of the Berkefield type filter — a later sample being satisfactory. No other action was necessary in connection with private water supplies.

SWIMMING POOLS.

There are ten private permanent swimming pools in the area and it appears that they have been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

During the swimming season four satisfactory bacteriological samples were taken at Kimbolton School Swimming Pool.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Parishes having foul sewers now being Kimbolton, Great Staughton, Buckden, Little Paxton, Southoe, Offord Darcy, Offord Cluny, Perry, the Model Farm Area of Graftham, Hail Weston, Diddington, Great Paxton, Toseland and Yelling.

During 1970 the whole of the drain connections were completed in connection with the Great Paxton, Toseland and Yeiling Scheme, thereby ensuring that all the properties served by the new foul sewers were connected to the sewers. At the end of 1970 almost all the private properties in these Parishes had been provided with water closets—many with the aid of Improvement Grants with complete new bathrooms. Sixteen Council houses in Yelling were modernised with bathrooms as were the six Council houses in Great Paxton so that all Council properties in these Parishes were provided with all modernised sanitary facilities.

Statutory Notices under the Public Health Act 1936 were served on the owner of one property in respect of drainage defects (Section 39) and for the conversion to water closet (Section 47). The owner failed to carry out the required works and the Council had to take steps to do the work themselves at the owner's expense.

Negotiations took place with the owners of Diddington Village which resulted in the Council making a charge for nightsoil collection from the owners of private houses in this Parish pending the provision of W.C.'s, bathrooms, etc. This charge commenced on the 1st November, 1970, and at the end of the year active steps were being taken by the Estate to proceed with the full modernisation of some cottages and the provision of temporary W.C.'s at other properties pending full scale improvements as financial considerations permit.

A tender was accepted by the Council for the sewerage of Graftham Parish and the enlargement of the Buckden Treatment Works amounting to £82,360. Work was commenced upon this Contract in June, 1970 and by the end of the year the Contract was almost half completed.

Towards the end of 1970 the Council's Consulting Engineers were instructed to prepare final details and plans for the sewerage of Abbotsley, Great Gransden and Waresley in order that this proposed Scheme could be started as soon as the Graftham/Buckden Scheme is completed. It is expected that this latter Scheme will take at least two years to complete, and when finished will mean that the Council's second planned programme for sewerage schemes has been finalised.

The Home Office have been in touch with the Council during the year with a view to putting the whole of the Gaynes Hall Borstal Institution on to the Council's main drainage schemes in the future. If agreement is reached upon the financial details, the Council will extend the Kimbolton/Great Staughton Sewage Works to provide not only for Gaynes Hall but for increasing development taking place in the hamlets of Perry and possibly for the reception of sewage from other nearby parishes such as Tilbrook and Covington. Progress on

such a scheme will, of course, depend upon financial considerations and whether the Abbotsley, Waresley and Great Gransden Scheme has been commenced.

Provisional agreement has been reached with Huntingdon Rural District Council for the future sewerage of Catworth Parish with sewage being discharged to Brington for treatment at their disposal works. Here again progress depends upon finances being made available.

At the end of 1970 negotiations were in hand with St. Neots Urban District Council for revision of the existing agreement for treating sewage from Little Paxton and Southoe in view of the increased population in these two Parishes, bringing the population served to about the limit provided for in the existing agreement.

The Council continue to receive and treat trade effluent from one farm in Buckden and a potato washing plant at Offord. There being no new application for trade effluent discharges.

The comminutor was installed at the main pumping station Little Paxton early in 1970 and has been operating satisfactorily.

The Parishes still urgently requiring the provision of Public Foul Sewers are :—

Abbotsley, Catworth, Covington, Great Gransden, Stow Longa, Tilbrook and Waresley.

Close co-operation with the Pollution Officer of the Great Ouse River Authority has continued during the year and the following samples of effluent have been taken :—

Buckden — 1 satisfactory sample and 4 unsatisfactory samples.

Kimbolton Works — 5 satisfactory samples.

Hail Weston Works — 5 satisfactory samples.

Great Paxton/Toseland Works — 2 satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory samples.

Most of the sludge from the sewage works is now disposed of at Buckden Refuse Tip by means of burial and only a small amount is disposed of to a local farmer.

Two piped sewers received attention during the year. 44 private cesspools were emptied and 589 loads of swerage were removed from Council cesspools or sewage tanks during the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The weekly collection of household refuse, starting in 1967 throughout the whole of the Rural District, continued during 1970. During the year 561 loads of household refuse were collected and 589 loads of sewerage sludge, cesspool contents or nightsoil were collecteed and disposed of.

It is pleasing to note a further decline in the number of pail closets in the area.

The average cost of dealing with each dustbin and/or pail is approximately 1/6d.

The paper sack system continued satisfactorily with plastic type paper sack holders.

The demand on the service for the collection of bulky unwanted household refuse has increased and has been dealt with by means of special collections from the premises concerned. Eight abandoned vehicles were dealt with under the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act of 1967. Two cases of depositing litter in public highways were investigated in conjunction with the Police and in each case a successful prosecution was made, resulting in fines being imposed upon the offenders. A case was similarly taken in respect of an abandoned vehicle which again resulted in a successful prosecution.

**STATISTICS OF HOUSES, WATER SUPPLIES, BATHS, W.C.'S,
E.C.'S, ETC.**

EXISTING ON THE 31st DECEMBER, 1970

Proper- ties	Number of Inside Stand Pipes	Water Supplies	Number of houses with					Parish
			Pte.	Baths	W.C.s	E.C.s	Public Sewers	
116	115	—	1	89	91	25	No	Abbotsley
666	665	—	1	621	662	4	Yes	Buckden
102	98	1	3	68	70	32	No	Catworth
36	33	—	3	30	31	5	No	Covington
44	44	—	—	15	15	29	Yes	Diddington
31	31	—	—	25	25	6	No	Eynesbury Hdwk.
91	91	—	—	62	60	31	Part	Grafham
204	202	—	2	173	169	35	No	Gransden, Great
103	103	—	—	96	100	3	Yes	Hail Weston
314	314	—	—	294	312	2	Yes	Kimbelton
152	151	1	—	148	151	1	Yes	Offord Cluny
171	169	—	2	157	170	1	Yes	Offord Darcy
132	132	—	—	121	128	4	Yes	Paxton, Great
529	527	—	2	527	529	—	Yes	Paxton, Little
21	21	—	—	19	19	2	No	St. Neots Rural
107	103	—	4	100	102	5	Yes	Southoe Midloe
296	290	1	5	258	284	12	Yes	Staughton, Great
42	42	—	—	36	34	8	No	Stow Longa
22	13	—	9	21	21	1	No	Tetworth
79	78	—	1	69	70	9	No	Tillbrook
41	35	5	1	25	31	10	Yes	Toseland
72	66	—	6	66	62	10	No	Waresley
95	92	—	3	86	91	4	Yes	Yelling
3466	3415	8	43	3106	3227	239		TOTAL 1970
3301	3247	10	44	2900	3006	295		TOTAL 1969
+165	+168	—2	—1	+206	+221	—56		

Number of E.C.'s converted in year in old houses	—	56
Number of baths installed in year in old houses	—	25
% of water supply inside houses from public mains	—	98.5 %
% of water supply inside houses from all mains	—	99.5 %
% of W.C.s in houses	—	93.1 %
% of Baths in houses	—	89.6 %

LITTER.

The arrangements made with Parish Councils, the Highway Authority and the Great Ouse Water Authority for the provision of litter bins and clearance of same continued to operate satisfactorily during the year and more litter baskets were provided in certain Parishes at the request of the Parish Councils.

PETROLEUM STORAGE LICENCES.

62 licences were issued for 1970. 1 installation was discontinued during the year.

The pre-payment self-service petrol pump referred to in the 1968 Report appears to operate satisfactorily, but has been modified to cope with decimalisation.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

At the end of 1970 there were 11 individual residential and 1 holiday caravan site licences in force, plus 4 site licences for 3 or more residential caravan sites and a further 2 site licences for 3 or more holiday caravan sites.

The total number of caravans was 46 residential and 16 holiday caravans stationed on these sites.

Also one site has been licensed for camping for the maximum of six tents and a further un-licensed camping site is in use occasionally.

45 visits were made to caravan and camping sites during the year and no serious conditions were found requiring action by the Authority.

COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE.

1,484 inspections were carried out and 805 orders were issued for repairs. All repairs have been carried out by private builders and contractors.

During the year the modernisation of six houses in Great Paxton and sixteen in Yelling was completed.

A scheme for improving four old houses in Grafham was prepared and approved by the Ministry. Work commenced in 1970 and bathrooms, etc., should be completed by the time the new sewerage scheme is operating.

With the completion of this contract all Council houses in this Rural District will have been provided with modern sanitary facilities.

NEW BUILDINGS.

348 plans of new buildings were deposited and 1,436 visits were made to inspect the work in progress. The amount of building work taking place in the area still indicates that the District is still expanding rapidly.

MILK DAIRIES.

No action was necessary during the year.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR PART

	Cattle Excluding Cows Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	125	Nil	Nil	808	10898	Nil
Number inspected	125	Nil	Nil	808	10898	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	Nil	Nil	9	1461	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and Cysticerci	20.8 %	Nil	Nil	1.1 %	13.4 %	Nil
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cysticercosis.						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

FOOD INSPECTIONS, INCLUDING SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

99 inspections of food premises were made. 45 tons 13 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lbs. of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption. The majority of this foodstuff consisted of vegetables and fruit from a large distribution depot situated in the area. 196 visits were made to the Slaughterhouse for the purpose of meat inspection. The licences for five slaughtermen were renewed as from 1st October, 1970. One new slaughterman's licence was issued from 1st October, 1970. All slaughtering is confined to the Kimbolton Slaughterhouse. The number of animals slaughtered has continued to increase — sheep up by 33% and pigs by 61%, demanding more time from the Public Health Inspectors.

During the year three premises were registered under the Food and Drug Act, 1955, for the sale of ice-cream, or the manufacture of sausages, cooked meat, etc. There is now a total of 46 such premises on the Council's register.

The number of food premises in the area is 96 as follows :—

- 6 Butchers.
- 35 Public Houses or Hotels.
- 39 General Stores.
- 10 Caterers.
- 4 Bakers.
- 2 Fruit Farm or Greengrocer.

The majority of these are small family businesses and all of them comply with Regulation 16 and Regulation 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1969, where applicable.

Three complaints were received during the year concerning food sold for human consumption in an unsound state. One complaint concerned

breakfast cereal found to be infested with insects and investigation revealed that they were old stock inadvertently sold following removal to new shop premises. The other two complaints concerned meat pies found to be mouldy, the shopkeepers concerned were advised upon stock rotation. All three traders were sent warning letters informing them that any future offences would be regarded very seriously and might result in legal proceedings.

There are no poultry processing premises within the District, although a number of poultry farmers send undressed carcases to markets outside this area.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT, 1963.

Two licences were renewed during the year covering a boarding establishment for 27 cats and one for the boarding of 16 dogs.

NATURAL GAS SUPPLIES.

It is worthy of note that conversions to natural gas were carried out by the Eastern Gas Board in February, 1970. The only villages having a gas supply being Little Paxton and Buckden.

CLEAN AIR ACTS 1956 TO 1968.

During the year one application for prior approval of a new furnace was received under Section 3 of the 1956 Act. Modification was made in the plan after consulting N.I.F.E.S. and the resulting scheme was then approved. This application also included an application under Section 6 of the 1968 Act concerning the height for a proposed chimney. This application was approved after consulting N.I.F.E.S.

NEW HOUSING.

During 1970 no new Council dwellings were completed. At the end of the year the Council therefore owned 571 houses plus 20 prefabricated bungalows.

181 new private dwellings were completed during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in the Council's area.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

15 standard or discretionary improvement grant schemes were completed during 1970, making a total of 406 private houses on which grants have been paid since the dates of the Acts. Many other schemes have been approved and are in progress. Of course, all Council houses are improved by means of similar grants as soon as the Villages in question are sewercd and the figures quoted above do not include Council houses.

Two Certificates of provisional approval were granted under Section 46 of the Housing Act 1969 in connection with Improvement Grant schemes.

Eight houses were demolished following either action under the Housing Acts in earlier years or by informal approach to the owners concerned.

HOUSING APPLICATIONS.

The annual revision of the Housing Waiting List shows that there are a total of 85 applicants. The general housing need still remains about

the same and there are comparatively few really urgent cases requiring re-housing. 9 applicants were classified as Priority, 32 as Reduced Priority and 44 as Non Priority. The chief reasons for placing people in the Priority Classes are condemned houses, overcrowding, elderly people living in houses too big for their needs or on medical grounds, people approaching retirement, living in tied houses, etc. Reduced Priority is given to people living in caravans and people transferring to work in the area until they have resided in the area for a reasonable length of time. In addition to the above, 21 existing Council house tenants request transfers to either larger or smaller accommodation.

HOUSING TABLE

1.	Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..	145
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	377
(2)	Total number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	1
(3)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..	6
2.	Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—	
(a)	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers, excluding those dealt with by Improvement Grants ..	6
(b)	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of Improvement Grants ..	15
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
(A)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 16 and 24 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ..	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners ..	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil
(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	1
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners ..	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ..	1
(C)	Proceedings under Sections 17, 26 and 28 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ..	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..	3
(3)	Number of houses closed during the year ..	Nil
(4)	Number of families displaced during the year ..	1
(D)	Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 :—	
(1)	Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	Nil
(2)	Number of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, having been rendered fit ..	Nil

(E) Proceedings under Part III of the Housing Act, 1957 :—
CLEARANCE AREAS :—

(1) Number of Clearance Areas declared during the year ..	Nil
(2) Total number of houses included in (1) above ..	Nil
(3) Number of houses included by reason of unfitness for human habitation ..	Nil
(4) Number of houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ..	Nil
(5) Number of families displaced during the year ..	Nil
(6) Number of houses demolished during the year ..	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1957—Part IV, Overcrowding :—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ..	Nil
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ..	Nil
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ..	Nil
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the yr. ..	Nil
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the yr. ..	Nil
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ..	Nil
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ..	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ..	Nil

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT.

7 persons or firms were registered.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949
REPORT FOR 12 MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1970

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS

	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district ..	3261	205
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification ..	48	—
(b) Number infested by:		
(i) Rats ..	47	—
(ii) Mice ..	1	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification ..	49	—
(b) Number infested by :		
(i) Rats ..	13	—
(ii) Mice ..	1	—

SEWERS & SEWAGE WORKS

4. Sewers infested by rats during the year ..	None (Test baited 50 manholes and 38 other Council properties)
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FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of :—		
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	7	1	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	56	6	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	21	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ..	84	7	Nil	Nil

Many visits are made to building sites for Building Regulations purposes and these are not included in the above table of inspections, but nevertheless the opportunity is taken of checking the sanitary accommodation available for the workmen.

OUTWORKERS.

Number of outworkers on April list required by Section 110 were as follows :—

Wearing Apparel, Making, etc. ..	2
Stuffed toys ..	2
Total ..	4

No cases of default in sending in lists were known, there were no prosecutions and no instances of work in unwholesome premises.

OFFICES, SHOPS, AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

(A) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices ..	1	8	7
Retail Shops ..	1	12	11
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ..	Nil	1	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	Nil	3	3
Fuel Storage Depots ..	Nil	1	Nil
Totals ..	2	25	22

TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT 27

In this Schedule —

“general inspection” means any inspection of premises to which the Act applies which is undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining whether all

the relevant provisions of the Act and instruments thereunder are complied with as respects those premises; and "registered premises" means any premises in respect of which a notice under section 49 of the Act has been received by a local authority or by the Greater London Council and the expression "premises registered" shall be construed accordingly.

The number of persons employed in these premises totalled 95.

43	.....	.....	.....	.....	Males
52	.....	.....	.....	....	Females

ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS

		Number of Contraventions found				
Section	4	Cleanliness	..	..	..	1
	5	Overcrowding	..	..	..	—
	6	Temperature	..	..	..	—
	7	Ventilation	..	..	..	1
	8	Lighting	..	..	..	—
	9	Sanitary Conveniences	..	..	..	—
	10	Washing Facilities	..	..	..	—
	11	Supply of drinking water	..	..	..	—
	12	Clothing Accommodation	..	..	..	—
	13	Sitting Facilities	..	..	..	—
	14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	..	..	..	—
	15	Eating Facilities	..	..	..	—
	16	Floors, Passage and Stairs	..	..	..	1
	17	Fencing exposed parts of machinery	..	..	..	—
	18	Protection of young person from dangerous machinery	..	..	..	—
	19	Training of young persons working at dangerous machinery	..	..	..	—
	23	Prohibition of heavy work	..	..	..	—
	24	First Aid, General provisions	..	..	..	—
	50	No Abstract of Act displayed	..	..	..	—
		TOTAL	..	..	..	3

GENERAL REMARKS.

Almost all the premises covered by this Act are small businesses. I do not think there are any serious problems in this area with regard to compliance with the provisions of this Act.

ANALYSIS OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS MADE :—

Housing	..	285
Council House Maintenance	..	1484
Houses, etc., Under P.H. Act, 1936	..	277
Supervision erection of new buildings	..	1436
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	..	345
Post-war housing	..	7
Drains Tested	..	83
Overcrowding	..	Nil
Refuse Collection and Disposal	..	79
Food Premises, Vehicles, etc.	..	99
Rats and Mice (Inspectors and Operator)	..	193
Miscellaneous	..	351
Moveable Dwellings	..	45
Factories	..	7
Housing Applications	..	57
Petroleum	..	38
Slaughterhouses	..	196
Ice Cream samples taken	..	Nil
Water samples taken (Chemical)	..	Nil
Water samples taken (Bacteriological)	..	47
Street Nameplates	..	22
Animal Boarding Establishment	..	3
Planning	..	164
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	..	27
Scrap Metal Dealers	..	1
Infectious Disease	..	Nil
Bulky Household Refuse and Abandoned Cars	..	91
Milk Samples (Bacteriological)	..	Nil

